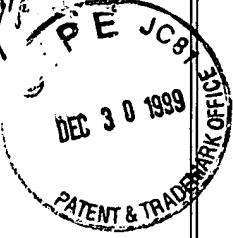


8P/1732

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 3063.0396-02



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
John E. EBY et al.) Group Art Unit: 1732
Serial No.: 09/287,631) Examiner: A. Kuhns
Filed: April 7, 1999)
For: SURFACE COVERINGS HAVING)
A NATURAL APPEARANCE AND)
METHODS TO MAKE A SURFACE)
COVERING HAVING A NATURAL)
APPEARANCE)

TC 1732 MAIL ROOM

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

In response to the Office Action dated October 1, 1999, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 9-10, 21-22, and 27-32 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claim 23 as follows:

In claim 23, line 1, please change "22" to --34--.

Please add the following new claims 33-38.

-- 33. A method of making a surface covering having multiple layers and an embossed design, comprising:

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